

REMARKS

As an initial matter, Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the courtesy, cooperation, and patience extended during the interview held July 18, 2006, with Applicant and Applicant's representatives. Applicant believes the interview fostered very significant progress in the prosecution of this application.

Applicant further thanks the Examiner for withdrawing the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of the pending claims resulting from the discussions and explanations of the interview.

In this Reply, Applicant has amended independent claims 7, 27, and 45 to address the Examiner's contentions regarding indefiniteness. Applicant has also added new claims 71-88 to claim additional aspects of the invention. Among other places, the specification discloses the subject matter of the new claims at pages 3-7, 11, and 15-19, so no new matter has been added. Claims 7-10, 27-30, 45-48, and 71-88 are currently under examination.

In the Office Action, the Examiner withdrew the rejection of claims 7-10, 27-30, and 45-48 based on 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) and issued a new rejection of claims 7-10, 27-30, and 45-48 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Applicant has amended independent claims 7, 27, and 45 to address the Examiner's contentions regarding indefiniteness, rendering moot the rejection of claims 7-10, 27-30, and 45-48 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. New claims 71-88 recite novel features similar to those recited in claims 7-10, 27-30, 45-48, and are therefore allowable over the prior art of record.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that claims 7-10, 27-30, 45-48, and 71-88 are now in condition for allowance, and respectfully requests the Examiner issue a notice of allowance as soon as possible.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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